

Kansas City's Top Openings

2005-2007

Kansas City is projected to have more than 38,000 job openings by 2007. During this time, the 20 occupations with the most projected total openings in Kansas City include four office and administrative occupations, three sales and related occupations and two transportation and material moving occupations. Job openings are classified as "Growth" or "Replacement" openings. Growth openings are new jobs that are added to the economy, while replacement openings are vacancies created by worker mobility or retirements, but are not new jobs.

Retail Salespersons are projected to have the most openings from 2005 to 2007 in Kansas City, with over 75 percent of those openings projected to be replacements. While an occupation such as Registered Nurses has fewer total openings than Retail Salespersons, split between growth and replacements, this occupation has a higher grade designation. Registered Nurses merit a Grade A career outlook due to a combination of above average total openings, fast growth and higher than average wages. Overall, fourteen of the 20 fastest growing occupations have a Grade A or B outlook in terms of having above average openings, growth and wages for the Kansas City region.

SOC	Occupation Title	2005 Estimated Employment	2007 Projected Employment	Total Openings	Openings Due to Growth	Openings Due to Replacements	Average Annual Wage	Career Grade
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	17,420	17,860	1,846	443	1,403	\$24,150	B-
41-2011	Cashiers	13,460	13,390	1,742	0	1,742	\$17,020	D
35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers, including Fast Food	11,720	12,020	1,581	304	1,277	\$15,310	C
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	10,690	10,930	1,488	240	1,248	\$14,470	C
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	16,420	16,670	971	241	730	\$24,690	B-
29-1111	Registered Nurses	10,640	11,050	804	410	394	\$52,270	A
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand	8,550	8,610	704	61	643	\$24,870	D
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	9,690	10,010	687	322	365	\$20,470	B
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	6,010	5,880	600	0	600	\$21,240	D
47-2031	Carpenters	7,410	7,750	556	339	217	\$39,490	A-
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	8,050	8,310	538	258	280	\$52,630	A
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Mfg, Except Tech & Scientific	6,430	6,600	508	175	333	\$50,900	A
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	9,650	9,820	449	171	278	\$31,860	B+
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	5,980	6,170	422	189	233	\$37,500	A-
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	7,060	7,240	415	179	236	\$91,550	A-
39-9011	Child Care Workers	4,550	4,700	413	148	265	\$18,900	C+
51-2092	Team Assemblers	7,230	7,250	388	19	369	\$31,740	B-
43-3071	Tellers	2,700	2,770	375	68	307	\$22,270	B-
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	4,730	4,860	374	130	244	\$24,530	B
53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	7,020	7,180	370	160	210	\$38,440	B+

Data Sources: MERIC Short-term Occupational Projections, MERIC Occupational Employment and Wage Survey and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Career Grades are assigned by analyzing an occupation's percent change, total openings and average wage relative to all other occupations in Kansas City. An occupation's combination of scores on these three factors determines its grade.